

THERE'S NO EXCUSE FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT!



Weed Army Community Hospital Staff came out in force for “Denim Day”, a nationally recognized opportunity to support the war against sexual violence. In Italy in the 1990s a teenage girl was picked up by her 45-year old driving instructor for her very first lesson, during which he raped and threatened to kill her. The instructor was convicted, but appealed the sentence all the way to the Italian Supreme Court where the Judge overturned the conviction on the grounds that the girl had been wearing tight jeans, saying she would have had to help the driving instructor take them off. Enraged by the decision, members of the Italian Parliament wore jeans to work the next day in protest. This protest soon spread to the US Congress and has since become an annual global movement in which communities express their support for survivors and declare that there is **NO EXCUSE** for sexual violence.

Sexual assault is the most under-reported crime in our society and in the military. While the Department of Defense prefers unrestricted reporting of sexual assaults to activate law enforcement actions, it recognizes that some victims desire only medical, legal, advocate, and support services and no command or law enforcement involvement. DoD believes its first priority is to protect the victims; treat them with dignity and respect; and to provide them with the medical treatment, legal assistance, victim assistance, care, and counseling that they deserve. Under DoD's Confidentiality Policy, sexual assault victims are offered two reporting options: [restricted reporting](#) and [unrestricted reporting](#).

If you or someone you know is the victim of sexual harassment or sexual assault, please call the **Fort Irwin SHARP Crisis Hotline at 760-401-3074**.